

AUG - 1 2003

DISTRIBUTION

PROPOSED PLAN FOR FINAL REMEDIAL ACTION FOR THE GROUNDWATER
OPERABLE UNIT AT THE CHEMICAL PLANT AREA OF THE WELDON SPRING SITE

The U.S. Department of Energy is issuing the plan for addressing groundwater contamination at the area of the former Chemical Plant. This plan has been developed in consultation with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and is protective of human health and the environment. The plan proposes a remedy of Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA) for the contaminants in the groundwater, institutional controls, and contingency activities in the event MNA does not progress as expected. This plan is accompanied by a document titled "Supporting Evaluation for the Proposed Plan for the Final Remedial Action for the Groundwater Operable Unit at the Chemical Plant Area of the Weldon Spring Site." This supporting document contains detailed results of the significant additional work, which has been accomplished since the Proposed Plan was last issued to the public in 1999. It also contains preliminary design information regarding the implementation of an MNA monitoring program.

We want to emphasize the areas of agreement we have reached to date with EPA and MDNR, but also acknowledge the areas that require additional discussions. DOE, EPA and MDNR have agreed that MNA is an appropriate solution for the Chemical Plant Area groundwater. This is a significant achievement. Discussions regarding the design of the performance monitoring and contingency activities have been extensive, with agreement reached in some, but not all, areas. The areas that require more discussion are principally the trigger concentrations and locations, which typically are not addressed at this stage of the decision making process. Contingency activities would be limited to localized treatment of TCE and reevaluation of the monitoring network and institutional controls.

At this stage of the process, DOE is seeking public comments regarding this Proposed Plan. The distribution list consists of stakeholders who have either specifically requested this information or who have had an interest in the site during the life of the project. If your name appears on the distribution list with an asterisk (*), then we have sent you this letter to let you know of the availability of the plan. You can request a hard copy of the Proposed Plan by calling 636/441-8086, extension 7079. You can also view the plan on the web at the following site: <http://www.gjo.doe.gov/programs/ltsm/maps/mo-i.htm>. You can also review it at the Middendorf-Kredell branch of the St. Charles City and County Libraries or at the Weldon Spring Site, which also has the Administrative Record containing relevant correspondence and reports regarding the groundwater. If your name appears on the distribution list without an asterisk, a hard copy of the plan has been enclosed for your review, based on our understanding of your wishes.

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A public meeting to discuss this Proposed Plan has been set for August 13, 2003, to be held at the Interpretive Center of the Weldon Spring Site, 7295 Highway 94 South, St. Charles, MO. The meeting will begin at 7 pm and is scheduled to end at 9 pm. The Interpretive Center will be open one hour earlier at 6 pm to accommodate visitors and have a short review of the Howell Prairie progress prior to the meeting. If you have any questions about the site, feel free to call me at (636)441-8978.

Sincerely,

Pamela Thompson
Project Manager
Weldon Spring Site
Remedial Action Project

Enclosure:
As stated

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